

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HELD AT
THE RUTHERFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING ON
DECEMBER 12, 2006 AT 11:30 A.M.**

**PRESENT: CHAIRMAN CHIVOUS BRADLEY
VICE CHAIRMAN PAUL MCINTOSH
MARGARET HELTON
CHARLES HILL
BRENT WASHBURN**

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CALL TO ORDER/INVOCATION

Chairman Chivous Bradley called the meeting to order. Board of Education Chairman Gail Parton gave the invocation.

BOARD OF EDUCATION/FOOTHILLS CONNECT/TECHNOLOGY PLAN

Dr. John Kinlaw, Superintendent of Rutherford County Schools, introduced Mr. Tim Will, Director of Foothills Connect.

Mr. Will told those present that the need for broadband access was of prime importance in Rutherford County. Manufacturing jobs have declined dramatically. Technology is the primary growth segment. Seven out of ten jobs are created by entrepreneurial businesses. Broadband would allow connection to the outside world.

Mr. Will presented a slide presentation on *Science, Technology, and Human Capital Development: Our Great Challenge & Our Key Opportunity* produced by the NC Board of Science and Technology. He then discussed the mission of Foothills Connect.

It is now required that every first responder be connected to broad band. DSL can be provided for a three-mile area surrounding each school. This will cover a lot of Rutherford County. Broadband needs to be considered a public utility, according to Mr. Will.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Bradley declared the meeting to be adjourned.

12:30 PM - Adjourned.

Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Vice Chairman, Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Clerk, Board of Commissioners